

## I CLAIM:

1           1. A method of removing brake and tire residues from a  
2 traveled way, comprising the steps of:

3           (a) spraying a rubber solvent onto a strip of the  
4 traveled way from a sprayer on an advancing vehicle;

5           (b) rubbing said solvent onto a surface of said strip  
6 with rotating brushes located on said advancing vehicle behind  
7 said sprayer;

8           (c) thereafter displacing a water sprayer along said  
9 strip and spraying water onto the surface treated with said  
10 solvent and said brushes to form a mixture of water and solvent-  
11 dissolved and rubbed-off rubber; and

12           (d) subsequently evacuating said mixture from said  
13 surface.

1           2. The method defined in claim 1 wherein said water  
2 sprayer sprays water onto a strip of said surface parallel to the  
3 strip being treated with said solvent and rubbed by said brushes  
4 and previously treated with said solvent and rubbed by said  
5 brushes in a prior pass of said vehicle.

1           3. The method defined in claim 2 wherein said strips  
2 are separated by a further strip of said surface treated with  
3 said solvent and rubbed by said brushes and along which the  
4 solvent has a residence time in contact with said residues  
5 enabling solubilization of rubber of said residues in said  
6 solvent.

1           4. The method defined in claim 1 wherein said water  
2 sprayer and a suction head are carried by another vehicle and are  
3 displaced over said strip subsequent to the advance of the first-  
4 mentioned vehicle thereover.

1           5. The method defined in claim 1 wherein said strip  
2 has a width of about 70 cm.

1           6. An apparatus for removing brake and tire residues  
2 from a traveled way comprising at least one vehicle capable of  
3 advancing along a strip of the traveled way;  
4           a solvent sprayer on said vehicle behind said solvent  
5 sprayer for spraying a rubber solvent onto said strip of the  
6 traveled way;

7 rotating brushes on said vehicle for rubbing said  
 8 solvent onto a surface of said strip;  
 9 a water sprayer displaceable along said strip for  
 10 spraying water onto the surface treated with solvent and said  
 11 brushes to form a mixture of water and solvent-dissolved and  
 12 rubbed-off rubber; and  
 13 a suction head behind said water sprayer for evacuating  
 14 said mixture from said surface.

1 7. The apparatus defined in claim 6 wherein said  
 2 vehicle is a waste-collection vehicle.

3 8. The apparatus defined in claim 6 wherein said water  
 4 sprayer is displaced with a lateral offset from said solvent  
 5 sprayer and said brushes along said surface.

1 9. The apparatus defined in claim 6 wherein said  
 2 suction head and said water sprayer are mounted on a vehicle,  
 3 said suction head being located between said front and rear axles  
 4 of a vehicle on which said water sprayer and spray head are  
 5 mounted.

1           10. The apparatus defined in claim 6 wherein said  
2 vehicle on which said water sprayer and suction head are mounted  
3 is a waste-collection vehicle having a receptacle receiving said  
4 mixture.

1           11. The apparatus defined in claim 6 wherein said  
2 water sprayer and said solvent sprayer and said brushes are  
3 mounted at the front of a single vehicle and said water sprayer  
4 is offset by at least a width of said strip from said solvent  
5 sprayer and said brushes.

1           12. The apparatus defined in claim 11 wherein said  
2 width is substantially 70 cm.

1           13. The apparatus defined in claim 11 wherein said  
2 water sprayer is spaced from said solvent sprayer and said  
3 brushes by a gap of a width at least equal to the width of said  
4 strip.

1           14. The apparatus defined in claim 11 wherein said  
2 brushes are counter-rotating brushes.

1           15. The apparatus defined in claim 11 wherein said  
2 brushes and said solvent sprayer are provided on at least one  
3 support capable of vertical displacement relative to said  
4 vehicle.

1           16. The apparatus defined in claim 15, further  
2 comprising means for displacing said brushes toward said surface  
3 upon wear of said brushes.

1           17. The apparatus defined in claim 11, further  
2 comprising a heating device connected with at least one of said  
3 spreaders for heating a liquid dispensed thereby.

1           18. The apparatus defined in claim 11 wherein said  
2 brushes and said solvent sprayer are provided on an attachment  
3 mounted at a front of said vehicle, said vehicle having an  
4 operator cabin and behind said cabin a diesel engine for driving  
5 at least a suction pump connected to said suction head.

1           19. The apparatus defined in claim 11, further  
2 comprising a blowing head behind said suction head for blowing  
3 against said surface.

1           20. The apparatus defined in claim 11 wherein said  
2 water sprayer extends substantially a full width of said vehicle  
3 on which said water sprayer is mounted.